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Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USDEL JEC PARIS PRIORITY

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FOLLOWING SENT ACTION PHNOM PENH, SAIGON, VIENTIANE AND
BANGKOK INFO CINCPAC REPEATED TO YOU:

QUOTE:

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E. O. 11652: N/ A
TAGS: PFOR, US
SUBJ: PRESS STATEMENTS ON CONGRESSIONAL ACTIONS

FOLLOWING ARE TWO PRESS STATEMENTS ISSUED TODAY BY THE
WHITE HOUSE AND DEPARTMENT OF STATE:

A. WHITE HOUSE STATEMENT: AFTER MORE THAN 10 ARDUOUS YEARS
OF SACRIFICE AND EFFORT IN INDOCHINA AN EQUITABLE FRAMEWORK
FOR PEACE WAS FINALLY AGREED TO IN PARIS LAST JANUARY.
THIS COULD NOT POSSIBLY HAVE BEEN ACHIEVED WITHOUT THE AC-
TIVE SUPPORT OF CONGRESS, ESPECIALLY IN THE LAST DIFFICULT
YEARS. THE PRESIDENT IS VERY CONCERNED THAT HAVING PERSE-
VERED TO SUCCESS THESE LONG YEARS, THE CONGRESS HAS, ON
THE VERY EVE OF NEGOTIATIONS TO ACHIEVE COMPLIANCE WITH
THAT SETTLEMENT, TAKEN ACTIONS THAT COULD SEVERELY UNDER-
MINE PROSPECTS FOR SUCCESS. IT IS THE PRESIDENT' S HOPE
THAT AS THE LEGISLATIVE PROCESS UNFOLDS, CONSIDERATION OF
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THESE MATTERS WILL TAKE PLACE IN THE BROADER PERSPECTIVE OF CONTINUING NEGOTIATIONS AND THE PURSUIT OF THE TRUE NATIONAL INTERESTS RATHER THAN FLEETING POLITICAL RELIEF. THE PRESIDENT, IN FULL COMPLIANCE WITH HIS CONSTITUTIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES IS DETERMINED TO ACHIEVE A CEASE- FIRE AND WITHDRAWAL OF FOREIGN FORCES FROM CAMBODIA IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PARIS AGREEMENTS, AND TO SECURE THE LASTING PEACE IN INDOCHINA FOR WHICH SO MANY PEOPLE HAVE SACRIFICED SO MUCH.

B. DEPARTMENT OF STATE STATEMENT: IT IS THE PURPOSE OF THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT TO CONTINUE TO SEEK COMPLIANCE BY ALL PARTIES CONCERNED OF THE AGREEMENT ON VIETNAM SIGNED ON JANUARY 27, 1973. TOMORROW WE UNDERTAKE NEGOTIATIONS IN PARIS TO ACHIEVE THAT GOAL. CONGRESSIONAL ACTIONS TO RESTRICT OR ELIMINATE U. S. MILITARY ACTIVITIES IN CAMBODIA AND LAOS COULD HAVE THE OPPOSITE EFFECT BY ENCOURAGING THE INTRANSIGENCE OF THE OTHER SIDE. WE EARNESTLY HOPE THAT THE CONGRESS WILL REFRAIN FROM SUCH ACTIONS AND ACT IN- STEAD IN THE INTEREST OF SUPPORTING OUR NEGOTIATORS AS THEY SEEK WHAT ALL AMERICANS SEEK, AN ENDURING PEACE. RUSH

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